

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5086

As of January 30, 2013

Title: An act relating to safety rest areas.

Brief Description: Establishing a joint safety rest area demonstration project.

Sponsors: Senators Benton, Roach, Holmquist Newbry, Sheldon, Dammeier and Carrell.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Transportation: 1/29/13.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Staff: Clint McCarthy (786-7319)

Background: There are 48 safety rest areas that are owned, operated, and maintained by the Department of Transportation (WSDOT). Under federal law, private and nonprofit entities are not allowed to lease space at the safety rest areas to operate businesses.

Summary of Bill: Private and nonprofit entities would be invited to operate a joint safety rest area demonstration project if WSDOT determines that the proposal is in the public interest. Monies received by WSDOT from the demonstration project must be deposited into the motor vehicle account. WSDOT must request a waiver from complying with any federal regulations prohibiting private entities from operating safety rest areas, including 23 U.S.C. sec. 111 which regulates the access to right-of-way on the interstate highway system.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: CON: There are concerns regarding the cost of implementation related to maintaining the system if more commercial interests are allowed to maintain safety rest areas.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Persons Testifying: CON: Matt Zuvich, WA Federation of State Employees.